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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-96. (Canceled)

97. (Currently amended) An integrated and secure system for conducting business over the public Internet by enabling a customer of ~~an enterprise~~ a communications network to command and control the customer's switched communications connections within the network over the public Internet and to view results of any changes in the customer's connections over the public Internet, the system comprising:

a web-based delivery system that delivers to the customer an object oriented protocol that encrypts interactive communications between the system and the customer over the public Internet, where the protocol is configured to be invoked within a web browser executed by a workstation associated with the customer, and where the ~~object oriented~~ protocol supports encryption, customer identification, authentication and ~~network~~ entitlements;

at least one secure web server that manages secure customer sessions over the public Internet, the at least one secure web server providing session management for the customer, the session management including customer identification, validation, entitlements and encryption; and